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WASTE-BASKET OF WORDS.

ALIBO. — In the "Autobiography of Henry Tufts," p. 117 (Dover, N. H., 1807), he says: "To prove an *alibi* (not an *alibo*)." Does the word "alibo" occur elsewhere? — *T. W. Higginson, Cambridge, Mass.*

BRIGGLE. — To be in an uneasy mental condition, to shift the attention rapidly from one thing to another. "Don't briggle so." In common use in Ohio. — *Fanny D. Bergen, Cambridge, Mass.*

BRIGGLY. — Adjective of the foregoing. Expressive of mental and physical restlessness.

COAST. — In confirmation of the conclusion, noted in previous numbers, that this word, in the sense of skimming over the snow on a sled, was originally confined to the local dialect of Boston, it may be mentioned that, as shown by careful inquiries, the term was entirely unknown in Salem, at a distance of sixteen miles on one side, as well as in Plymouth, removed thirty miles on the other.

MOWKIE. — A louse, as I have heard the word employed in my childhood in Boston. — *F. F. Child, Cambridge, Mass.* Doubtless an old English word, though not found in the glossaries, and connected with the German *Mücke* (Eng. *midge*), a fly, gnat. It might be guessed that the word once had this signification, and was euphemistically used for louse; in support of which it may be mentioned that at the present day, in rural districts of New England, the term *bug* is so employed, to say *louse* being considered objectionable and vulgar.

PASS. — In New England the ordinary term used to express the throwing and catching of a ball by two or more persons is *pass*. "Let's go out and *pass*." In New Jersey and Pennsylvania the verb is *catch*. "Let's go out and catch." The noun also is called *catch*. — *W. H. Garrison, Philadelphia, Pa.*

PIXILATED. — Lost, bewildered, confused. A local term of Marblehead. For example, when an oarsman has been negligent: "We'll be pixilated 'n' driven on to th' rocks an' ye don't wake up." (From the novel "Agnes Surriage," by E. L. Bynner, Boston, 1887, p. 56.) The word, no doubt, is the same as the obsolete English *pixy-led*, that is, misguided by a fairy. *Pixy* is a form of Puck (by derivation meaning simply a little one, a boy: see "Grimm's Mythology"), part of whose business or pleasure, as we read in "Midsummer Night's Dream," is to

Mislead night wanderers, laughing at their harm.

ROOMTHY. — This good old word, of which the dictionaries quote examples from Drayton and Fuller, is used by Judge Sewall. "His (Mr. Edward Taylor's) very roomthy and good new meeting-house." *Diary*, vol. iii. p. 319. — *H. W. Haynes, Boston, Mass.*